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genuine study of the authors in the college course?

The answer to this plea that Professor Stevenson suggests is that these authors should be studied through the medium of translations. He does not seem to observe that his indictment is also one against the methods of teaching; otherwise he might think that if the teaching were better the results would be better; but at any rate that is the only answer that can be made to such strictures. That, however, Professor Stevenson has no genuine appreciation of the problems of teaching languages is shown by this sentence toward the close: "English, German and French are quite as difficult as Latin, and their literature is sufficiently inspiring". No one who is so ignorant of the actual differences between the classical and the modern tongues deserves to have his opinions treated seriously, but his indication of the results of classical study are of value in showing the views of a large number of people.

G. L.

SOME REFLECTIONS ON THE PRONUNCIATION OF LATIN

At a meeting of The New York Latin Club held in May, 1910, Professor F. F. Abbott, of Princeton University, read a paper entitled *Some Reflections on the Pronunciation of Latin*. We are very glad indeed to be privileged to print at this time Professor Abbott's own summary of the main parts of the paper. Professor Abbott prefaced his remarks by saying that he planned to lay before his hearers for their consideration some conclusions which seemed to him established and others which might appear only probable or calculated to suggest sounder methods of approaching certain practical questions of pronunciation than the methods in vogue at present.

The summary of the paper follows:

I.

While the accent in the speech of everyday life was marked by a stress, as we can see from the weakening of certain unaccented vowels and from such cases of syncope as *stablum*, the retention of long unaccented vowels (e. g. *crēdebātur*, *frūgā-lissimus*) and the clear descriptions of the grammarians make it probable that in literary circles it was essentially a matter of pitch.

II.

The group, not the word, is the accentual unit. This is clear from (1) a study of certain accentual phenomena, (2) an examination of Latin verse, (3) the use of separation points in the inscriptions.—(1 a) The Latin writers tell us of word groups: e. g. Quintilian says (1.5.27), *nam cum dico "circum litora", tamquam unum enuntio dissimulata distinctione, itaque tamquam in una voce una est acuta*. (1 b) Plautus and Terence accent not *operam dare* but *operām dare*, etc. (1 c) The crystallized word-groups in Latin, like *invicem*, and (1 d) Romance derivatives point to such grouping: e. g. Italian

ancora = *ad hanc hōram*. (1 e) The iambic shortening law in dramatic verse shows it: e. g. *Quid ergo! dubitas quin lubenter tuo ero meus quid possiet*, Pl. Poen. 881.—(2 a) Reduction of the quantitative value of final vowel + initial vowel in verse shows that they were run together. (2 b) A syllable in verse ending in short vowel and consonant, followed by initial vowel, is short; therefore an open syllable and final consonant must be carried over to next word: cf. *atōm* (= at home). (2 c) Final consonant + initial consonant makes long syllable. (2 d) Short final vowel + 2 initial consonants usually makes long syllable. All this shows that the words were linked together in pronunciation.—(3) The points which are used to separate individual words in an inscription are often omitted between a preposition and substantive, etc.: e. g. *INDE · DEORSVM · INFONTEM*. This leads us to make the same inference.

III.

What results probably followed if Latin words were linked together in pronunciation? Cf. liaison in French, *vous aurez de quoi vous occuper au logis*. Was a similar method of rendering a sentence followed in Latin?

A. (vowels). When final precedes initial vowel in verse there is a reduction of quantity: e. g.

Alta petens, pariterque oculos telumque tetendit.

As for the quality, there are two theories of its treatment: (1) first vowel cut off, (2) characteristic quality of both vowels heard. No evidence for first theory. Second rests on unwarranted assumption that when two vowels come together they do not influence the quality of each other. Cicero (Orator 150) seems to mean that neither vowel was cut off. Quintilian says of final *m*: "*neque enim eximitur, sed obscuratur et tantum in hoc aliqua inter duas vocales velut nota est, ne ipsae coeant*" (9.4.33-40). Gellius, 13.21.6, says that *turrim* had a pleasanter sound than *turrem* before *in*. Correct conclusion to be had from studying treatment of two concurrent vowels in the interior of words. Cf. *cogo* from *co-ago*, *dego* from *de-ago*, *coepi*.

B. (consonants). When two or more difficult consonants come together (1) one is assimilated: cf. *irruo* (= *inruo*), *scriptus* (= *scribtus*); (2) one is dropped: cf. *ipse* (= *ispse*); (3) a vowel is inserted, as in *vehiculum*, Henery. Only a few of the changes in pronunciation were indicated in spelling: cf. *obtineo*, *urbs*. Spelling was fixed by usage. We must look for light to the writing of the illiterate who spelled as they pronounced. From them we get such methods of pronunciation indicated as *cun caris*, *con coniuge*, *Maurussun quem*, *quen quisque*, *cun filiis*, *usquedun veniat*, *im balneum*, *im fronte*, etc., all showing an assimilation of the final to the following initial consonant. To the cases just cited may be added what Quintilian and Cicero, in a letter, have to say about the assimilation of final *m* in *cum* to an initial *n*. In pronouncing a final vowel or consonant + an initial vowel or consonant, when we read a Latin sentence aloud, ought we not to take into consideration, for the word groups at least, the same phonetical laws as prevail in the interior syllables?

Now let us see what practical conclusions follow if our reasoning be accepted. It follows that we should read prose and verse with little if any stress; that we are confronted no longer by the ictus-word-accent-issue in verse; that our words should be grouped in reading into accentual units which will

be determined partly by our appreciation of the sense, as they are in English, partly by a study of Plautus and other sources, and finally that we can be helped in determining the treatment to be given to concurrent vowels and consonants which result from this liaison by observing the phonetic changes which the same combinations undergo within a word.

IMPORTANT EXCAVATIONS AT PERGAMUM, SARDIS AND DIDYMA¹

Since Professor Chase in his good account of Greek Archaeology in 1909 (*The Classical Journal* 6.65 ff.) gives no details with regard to recent excavations at Pergamum, Sardis and Didyma, it may interest the readers of *THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY* to know what was done last year at these Asia Minor sites. At Pergamum excavations were continued at Jigma-tepe, a large mound or tumulus in the plain of the Caicus which measures about 500 meters in circumference and is surrounded by a wall and had a flight of steps to the top. Dörpfeld had previously dug a trench into the centre and elsewhere without finding the burial place. Last year he dug trenches cross-wise, with similar failure. In fact he has removed about a fifth of the entire mound without finding the burial place; so well hidden was the corpse in some secret part of the tumulus. But the most fruitful work was in the precinct of Demeter on a terrace on the slopes of the acropolis. Here were discovered a temple and altar at one end and a Propylon at the other. On the lower side were found the underground rooms of a portico which was 90 meters long with three rows of columns, commanding a beautiful view over the valley of the Caicus. On the upper side was unearthed a sort of odeum or square assembly-place where people could sit and watch the initiations and mysteries and rites in honor of Demeter, as at Oropus and Eleusis. The seats are well preserved and a door-way with enormous lintel still in place gives access from the odeum to a room above the Propylon. The temple was originally dedicated about 262 B. C. to Demeter alone, but a portico of six columns was added to the temple in antis by the Roman G. Claudius Seilianus Aesimus, in whose behalf also an altar was erected near the Propylon to virtue and temperance by Julia Pia, his wife. The dedication was made to include Kore also, as the inscription on the later architrave informs us (*Δήμητρι Καρποφώρῳ καὶ Δήμητρος Κόρῃ Γ. Κλαύδιος Σειλιάδος Αἰσμο[ς] πρυτανεύων τὸν πρόναον κατασκευάσας ἐ[κ]κυ[οναῖον ἀνέθηκεν*). On the altar, eight meters long, was the inscription *Εὐμένης ὑπὲρ τῆς μητρὸς Βόας Δήμητρι*, which proves that the altar was built at the same time with the temple on the original architrave of which occurs the same inscription. This Eumenes then is Eumenes

the elder and not the son of Apollonis, whose name occurs on the Propylon. In front of the Propylon were also found two altars, the one with an inscription *Ἀρετῇ καὶ Σωφροσύνῃ Ἀκαστρικίῳ Παῦλος Μύστης κατ' ὄναρ*, the other with the inscription *Πίστει καὶ Ὁμονοίᾳ Ἀκαστρικίῳ Παῦλος Μύστης κατ' ὄναρ*. In the case of the Propylon the ten steps which led down into the precinct are well preserved and two peculiar unfluted columns with reed capitals have been re-erected. The steps on the outside are also preserved and near them was discovered a Roman nymphaeum. Almost the entire entablature of the Propylon has been put together and the inscription on the architrave reads *Βασίλισσα Ἀπολλωνίᾳ Δήμητρι [καὶ Κόρῃ] Θεσμοφόροις χαριστήριον τὰς στέας καὶ τοὺς οἴκους*. Many inscriptions and interesting pieces of sculpture were also unearthed. In a cistern were found several beautiful Roman heads, among them portraits of Augustus, the elder Agrippina and Tiberius. These are now in Constantinople; but at Pergamum one still sees a relief of the three-headed Cerberus, who would appropriately find a place in a sanctuary of Demeter and Persephone. Also appropriate is a relief representing a priestess or the goddess herself near an altar with torch in one hand and bowl in other. Near her is a steer with its feet on bases and tied with a rope to a ring in the pavement such as have recently been found at Ephesus and Sardis. There is a similar relief in Athens but the interpretation is doubtful. These recent excavations at Pergamum are important and will throw much light on the celebration of the mysteries in Roman times².

Sardis for many years has been in the eyes of Asia Minor archaeologists as a promising site for excavation. Its varied history from early Lydian days down to Roman times, when it became one of the seven branches of the Asia Minor candlestick, was well known, and so the granting of a firman to Professor Howard Crosby Butler was welcomed by all scholars and it is a matter for congratulation that the Americans have invaded Asia Minor. The American excavations began last March with a very wide trench which was dug back from the river Pactolus toward the two unfluted columns which have always been known to travellers. Early in the campaign was discovered a very ancient building of soft blackish sandstone. The steps which led up to this are well preserved and all about the building were found bases of statues and steles, none of them, however, inscribed. This structure is probably Lydian and was completely covered by the large temple subsequently erected. The discovery of limekilns which got their supply of marble from the large temple was discouraging but the south side

¹ This report is based on a visit to Pergamum and Didyma last April and on my participation in the campaign at Sardis as epigraphist.

² Within the last few months the temple of the mother of the gods with identifying inscriptions has been excavated under the personal direction of the aged veteran Conze.